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Pisgah Legal Services Appoints Jaclyn Kiger as First Chief Operations Officer



(Asheville, NC) –Pisgah Legal Services' Board of Directors has appointed Managing Attorney Jackie Kiger as the organization's first Chief Operations Officer. This newly created position will support the structure of the organization, be a resource for staff and lead the organization in innovative ways to continue to meet the demand for its services.

"There are approximately 100,000 people in our area who qualify for our services," says PLS Executive Director, Jim Barrett. "We want to provide holistic services to as many people as possible while maintaining the integrity of the organization. The Chief Operations Officer is a key part of our strategic growth and will help us accomplish our goals."

Jackie first came to Pisgah Legal Services (PLS) in 2010 as a volunteer and months later was hired as a staff attorney. In 2014 she was promoted to Managing Attorney to oversee PLS' health justice, public benefits and immigration work. She has a Masters in Social Work from UNC Chapel Hill and received her law degree from John Marshall Law School.

"I'm really excited to take on this role," says Jackie. "We have quadrupled in size under Jim Barret's leadership and my role will be to provide the infrastructure support so we can continue to do the best work possible and make the most impact. Having worked in multiple roles at Pisgah Legal Services, I have a deep understanding of the issues our clients face and the importance that legal services plays in providing long-term solutions. I am honored to continue to work alongside our staff and volunteers in this new capacity."

For more than 40 years Pisgah Legal Services has helped low-income people in WNC meet their basic needs by providing free civil legal aid in non-criminal matters to people who cannot afford a private attorney, including: assisting children in crisis, stopping domestic violence, addressing

fraud, preventing homelessness, protecting seniors, accessing health care and securing essential benefits.

PLS has a staff of 27 attorneys and relies heavily on the pro bono legal services of approximately 300 volunteer attorneys. The nonprofit's main service area includes [eight counties in WNC](#), with offices in Asheville, Brevard, Hendersonville, Marshall, Rutherfordton and Spruce Pine. Last year Pisgah Legal assisted more than 16,800 people in the WNC region.

For more information, call Pisgah Legal Services at 828-253-0406 or toll free at 800-489-6144 or go to www.pisgahlegal.org.

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